

## Message Text

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ORIGIN CU-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /006 R

66612

DRAFTED BY:CU/IR:RO'NEILL

APPROVED BY:CU/CP:MBLEWIS

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P 091210Z JUL 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY

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FOR KENTON KEITH

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 143007 SENT ACTION DAMASCUS INFO BEIRUT  
DATED 2 JULY 1974:

QTE

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: OEXC:SY

SUBJECT: CU/CUP:DAMASCUS INTERNATIONAL FAIR

REF: STATE 135635

1. PER USIA REQUEST FOR SINGLE ANNOUNCEMENT DAMASCUS FAIR,  
TEXT OF PRESS RELEASE ON FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY BAND  
PERFORMANCE (REFTEL) HAS BEEN REVISED TO EXPAND  
REFERENCE USIS SPACE EXHIBIT.

2. BEGIN REVISED TEXT:

"THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE TODAY ANNOUNCED AMERICAN  
PARTICIPATION IN THE 1974 DAMASCUS INTERNATIONAL TRADE  
FAIR.

"WHEN PRESIDENT NIXON VISITED DAMASCUS JUNE 16 HE ADVISED  
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SYRIAN PRESIDENT ASAD THAT THE US ACCEPTED 'WITH

PLEASURE' THE SYRIAN INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FAIR. US TRADE REPRESENTATION AT THE FAIR IS BEING ARRANGED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.

"THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT ALSO REQUESTED AN AMERICAN CULTURAL PRESENTATION, AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY THAT THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY BAND OF TALLAHASSEE WILL BE A MAJOR PART OF THE AMERICAN REPRESENTATION AT THE FAIR.

THE UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY, IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION, WILL DISPLAY A US SPACE EXHIBIT AT THE FAIR.

"THE US SPACE DISPLAY AND THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY BAND'S APPEARANCES WERE ALSO ANNOUNCED TODAY IN DAMASCUS.

"THE USIA SPACE EXHIBIT IS THE FIRST TO BE PRESENTED BY THE UNITED STATES IN THE SYRIAN CAPITOL SINCE 1964.

"ARTIFACTS FROM AMERICA'S HISTORIC APOLLO AND SKYLAB MISSIONS TO BE DISPLAYED INCLUDE VISAR ASSEMBLIES, LUNAR TOOLS AND A MOON ROCK. IN ADDITION, SYRIAN FAIRGOERS WILL BE ABLE TO VIEW THE ASTRONAUTS' LIVING QUARTERS AS THEY WALK THROUGH A FULL SIZE MODEL OF THE SKYLAB WARDROOM.

"THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY BAND WILL PERFORM DURING THE FINAL TEN DAYS OF THE FAIR LATE IN AUGUST. THE FULL BAND WILL PERFORM IN THE DAMASCUS FOOTBALL STADIUM, SEATING 25,000 PEOPLE, AND SEPARATE ENSEMBLES OF THE BAND WILL GIVE CONCERTS IN SYRIAN THEATERS DURING AND AFTER THE FAIR.

"THE UNIVERSITY BAND OF 150 STUDENTS, DIRECTED BY RICHARD D. MAYO, IS EXPECTED TO LEAVE TALLAHASSEE APPROXIMATELY AUGUST 11 AND RETURN TO FLORIDA APPROXIMATELY AUGUST 23.

"US GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS SAID THEY VIEW AMERICAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PARTICIPATION AT THIS YEAR'S DAMASCUS INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR AS A SYMBOL OF IMPROVED RELATIONS BETWEEN SYRIA AND THE UNITED STATES. SOME THIRTY-FIVE COUNTRIES ARE TO BE REPRESENTED AT THE FAIR." END TEXT

3. DEPT RECOMMENDS SIMULTANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENT IN WASHINGTON AND DAMASCUS AT DATE AND TIME TO BE AGREED BY DEPARTMENT, USINT DAMASCUS AND SYRIAN GOVERNMENT.

4. DO YOU CONCUR REVISED TEXT?

5 CAN YOU COORDINATE WITH SYRIAN GOVERNMENT FOR  
SIMULTANEOUS PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT?

6. FOR DAMASCUS AND EMB BEIRUT: PLEASE REPLY QUERIES  
POSED REFTEL. SISCO UNQTE SISCO

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 JUL 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** martinml  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974STATE143007  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** CU/IR:RO'NEILL  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** SECSTATE WASHDC  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 74 STATE 135635  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** martinml  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 AUG 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21 AUG 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <19 FEB 2003 by martinml>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CU/CUP:DAMASCUS INTERNATIONAL FAIR  
**TAGS:** OEXC, SY  
**To:** RABAT  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005